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Faction among Harijans in Sembiam area.

* 70-A *Q.*—SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware of the existence of a faction among Harijans in the Sembiam area;

(*b*) whether the Government are aware that innocent Harijans not belonging to the group of the Scheduled Castes Federation are being molested by members of the latter group;

(*c*) whether the Government or the Collector have received complaints that adequate protection is not given to innocent victims;

(*d*) if the answers to (*a*), (*b*) and (*c*) are in the affirmative, what action the Government propose to take in the matter; and

(*e*) if the answers to (*a*), (*b*) and (*c*) are in the negative, whether the Government will call for a report?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) & (*c*) Certain representations were received by the Government to that effect.

" (*d*) Report has been received by Government that necessary steps for the maintenance of law and order have been taken by the local authorities.

" (*e*) Does not arise."

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask whether these unfortunate people have been unable to go back to their homes and live peacefully?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" Yes, Sir. That was the complaint received by the Government and it was on that complaint that the Commissioner of Police in charge of the City was instructed."

SRI H. M. JAGANNATHAM :—" Is it not a fact that a member of the Scheduled Castes Federation was molested and killed by the so-called Harijans belonging to the Congress and there was a complaint about it in the Saidapet Court?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" It might be so. This sort of strife was going on between the two sections in some places."

Leaflet issued by the Madras Communist Party.

* 70-C *Q.*—SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware of the leaflet issued by the Madras Committee of the Indian Communist Party; and

(*b*) what action the Government propose to take in the matter?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" (*a*) The attention of the Government has been drawn recently to a leaflet purported to have been issued by the Communist Party.

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"(*b*) With reference to the various items mentioned in the leaflet, the position briefly stated is as follows :—

'*Case of Murugappa & Sons.*—As there were reasons to suspect that this firm had sold their export permit and also exceeded the quantity allowed to be exported, their export quotas and their licence to deal in cloth in this Province have been cancelled. For want of adequate evidence, the Textile Control Department has not so far been able to prosecute the suspected persons. The very fuss made and publicity given by the Communists has made it extremely difficult to secure the necessary evidence for a prosecution. The Textile Control Department has not yet given up hopes of getting the evidence for a prosecution in this case and is continuing its efforts to secure evidence.

'Murugappa & Sons are not doing any business in cloth in this Province under any licence or permit granted by the Provincial authorities. Owing to legal commitments already made by the Textile Commissioner, Bombay, they have been permitted to complete their subsisting lungi contract with the Government of India.

'*Export of unauthorized quantities of cloth by S.S. "Quetta".*—The investigation is still in progress, and it would seriously prejudice the chances of a successful investigation if the facts already collected are disclosed. The person who can give the most valuable clue in this case is absconding. Energetic action is being taken to complete the investigation quickly and for suitable deterrent action against the culpable persons.

'*Cases against Umayal Weaving Establishment.*—In two cases, this factory is alleged to have sold its export permits, the quantities actually exported on the strength of the permits being also in cases of the permissible limits. The investigation in one of these cases is nearing completion, while that of the second one is in progress. Detailed reports regarding these cases have already been submitted to the Government. If investigation in such cases is to be conducted successfully, we have to proceed in a thorough and careful fashion and conduct the inquiries as unobstrusively as possible. The Communists are under-estimating the difficulties of such inquiries and the time within which they can be carried to a successful conclusion.

'*Case against Hamsa Rowther and Khader Rowther.*—The investigation of this case is under progress and it will take more time as we want to book also the other and more powerful persons responsible.

'*Case against Kothandaram Mills, Madura.*—The Textile Control Department has already informed the mill authorities that they will be prosecuted. The charge sheet will be filed, after obtaining the orders of the Government, as soon as the investigation on an important point connected with

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this case has been completed. A report has already been submitted to the Government in regard to this case in reply to a starred question in the Legislative Assembly.

'*Alleged case against South India Corporation (Madras), Ltd.*—No definite allegation meriting investigation has been made against this firm in regard to its utilization of permits for the export of handloom cloth from this Province.

'The public will soon know that the present Government are not lacking in courage for taking suitable action in cases in which there is evidence of misconduct by persons irrespective of their wealth and social status.

'*Case against Lotus Mills, Coimbatore.*—The Government have considered the results of the investigation in this case and their decision will be announced shortly.

'*Case against Sari Stores and the brother of the Textile Control Officer, Trichinopoly.*—These cases are under investigation. The two most important witnesses are absconding. Energetic attempts are being made to trace them.

'*Case against Baluswami Ayyar.*—The export quota has already been forfeited. On completion of the investigation in regard to the only remaining point, steps will be taken for prosecution and cancellation of the licence.

'*Case against Viswanath Prem Prakash.*—The investigation in this case has been completed and the charge-sheet will be filed shortly.

'*Allegation against Mohanram Factory.*—No offence has been committed in this case. The Communists are under a complete misapprehension as to the real position. Suitable action to regulate the supply of yarn to Mohanram Factory is being taken by the Textile Control Department. No yarn has been secreted as alleged.' "

Alleged import of paddy.

* 85-B *Q.*—SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food and Motor Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there was an import of paddy to Madras from Burma recently and if so how many tons;

(*b*) whether a quota was allotted for the Chingleput district from the imported stock and how much:

(*c*) whether the entire quota for the district was handed over to the Central Co-operative Stores, Chingleput:

(*d*) whether the Government are aware that the Central Co-operative Stores have taken the entire paddy allotted to the taluks of Chingleput, Madurantakam and Conjeeveram;

(*e*) whether the Government are aware that by entrusting procurement and distribution for the district to the Central Co-operative Stores, the taluks of Saidapet, Sriperumbudur, Ponneri and Trivellore suffer from inequitable distribution; and